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AUSTIN.

The House Begins the Discussion of the Railroad Bill.

The Author Makes His Speech But Weakens in His Opposition.

Everyone Surprised at the Fairness He Exhibited to the Roads.

The Appropriation Bill Considered—The School Lands.

Senate.

Austin, March 3.—The pending question was the adoption of Mr. Collins amendment.

Mr. Gooch spoke against the lease system but contended for a long term, should the lease be adopted, as he was of the opinion that it required a long term of years to educate convicts on the skill of labor.

Mr. Davis also opposed the lease system but contended for either ratifying or annulling without any amendment whatever.

Mr. Johnson of Shelby insisted on ratifying the lease, as in his opinion it was far better than for the state to try and resume.

Mr. Gooch moved to postpone further consideration of the bill until Monday. Adopted.

Mr. Stratton called up the bill amending the law incorporating the city of Galveston with the house amendment adopted this morning. The amendment was adopted and the bill passed.

Mr. McCall called up the bill providing for the traveling expenses of the quartermaster of the frontier battalion. The bill was engrossed.

Mr. Harris called up the bill to reorganize the state into judicial districts and to correct certain errors in the printed bill.

Adjourned till Monday.

The pending business was the railroad commission bill, but the special order was suspended and the bill to amend the charter of the city of Galveston taken up and passed under a suspension of the rules.

A motion by Mr. Armstrong to further postpone and take up the joint resolution for the appointment of three railroad commissioners gave rise to a discussion, when Mr. Armstrong withdrew his motion and the railroad bill then came up upon which Mr. Chenoweth had the floor.

At a suggestion and by the request of the members, the gentleman took a position in the center of the house and immediately in front of the speaker. The delivery of his speech occupied an hour and thirty minutes, and disappointed most signally those who expected to hear a severe arraignment of the railroads and an effort aggressive in style and sentiment. The speech began by beginning to end was devoid of anything like aggressiveness, and was remarkable for its spirit of fairness, concession and even compromise.

He admitted in a spirit of candor that the bill was far from being perfect and indicated his willingness to join hands with the other members in perfecting the measure so that it could give the relief sought by the people and at the same time preserve perfect equity and fairness between the roads and citizens of the whole state. He read from authorities to show that Mr. Stephenson and Charles Francis Adams, the foremost experts of the age, have given it as their opinion that the creation of commissions are the only practicable solution of the great and perplexing railroad problem, and while he took occasion and did himself the pleasure of commending, in the very highest terms, certain railroad gentlemen who had been before the committee for their fair and ready disposition to deal fairly with the question, he regretted to know that there were those who, in the face of the opinions of such men, Stephenson, Adams and others, would seek to defeat any measure looking in this given direction. Such men were capable of mocking at wisdom itself. He held that a popular revolution was growing daily upon this subject. Such revolutions never go backward and in all kindness he would warn these gentlemen who own these great interests, if they do not join in and help control them they would most surely see the day when they would rue it. He then argued the constitutionality of the bill, citing numerous authorities, notably the decision of Judge Woods of the United States circuit court in the case of Tilly vs. state of Georgia. He read from the report of the Georgia committee to show the good effect of the latter in that state; that it had brought the roads and people to better understand each other, and as a natural consequence secured the recognition of the natural rights of both. He contended that the people had demanded this legislation and alluded to the fact that not only had it been incorporated into the platform of the Democratic party, but during the canvass and up to within a few days before the sitting of the legislature, it was a slogan of that party. All of the leading papers had taken such position, but, with a peculiar suddenness, these papers changed front and denounced all and every kind of railroad legislation. He was at a loss to understand that. Newspapers claimed to be public educators, but if this strange inconsistency could be regarded as a sample of their educating powers they had best confine themselves to a simple telling of news. He read an editorial from the Galveston News printed in December, which took very strong grounds in favor of the regulating of railroads.

By law he then sought to show after reciting the splendid workings of commissions in other states, that practically the same condition of things existed in greater part of Texas, and were susceptible of conforming to a similar law. After answering briefly the argu-

ment that the present laws are sufficient to correct the discriminations and abuses, and alluding briefly to certain features of the schedule of charges heard in favor of the bill, allowing the commissioners power to inspect the condition of the roads and alluded to the fact that 633 persons had been seriously injured, and 170 killed in Texas during the past year, as shown by the reports, in the face of such testimony can it be that the roads are in good condition. He said he was willing to see his bill cut and quartered if it be in the interests of the people. He was not wedded to it any more than other members ought to be. The gentlemen concluded with a few eloquent words eulogistic of the great state of Texas, expressing the hope that wisdom may dictate a course which will serve to promote the glories and perpetuate the greatness and grandeur of the future.

Communications were read from Senator Coke assuring the legislature of his willingness to vote against the tax on quinine, and to use his endeavors to prevent the removal of the federal troops from the Rio Grande frontier; also, from General Fitzhugh Lee thanking the body for a tender of the use of their hall for his lecture Monday night.

Mr. Stagner addressed the house in advocacy of the railroad commission bill. He took his position first on the demands of the constitution and second on the platform on which he was elected. The gentleman was very brief but made a strong arraignment of the railroads for what he regarded as their unjust discriminations. He read an editorial in the Galveston News which held that if Governor Ireland made his race on the platform of railroad legislation his majority would have been 200,000. Pending further discussion he yielded to a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Foster of Limestone moved to adjourn until Monday morning. This motion was made to prevent the appropriation bill superseding the railroad bill as a special order, and the motion was lost by ayes thirty-five, nays sixty.

A motion by Mr. Upton that the appropriation bill be made the special order for three p. m. to-day was carried and the house adjourned till that hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The house went into committee of the whole on the general appropriation bill. Under the head of lunatic asylum the watchmen were increased from one to four and five hundred dollars allowed for repairs on the old building. The clause was adopted and so the clause for the blind asylum.

The clause to pay pensions under a special act appropriating \$1,4 was adopted.

Under the head of department of education the salary of the secretary was reduced from \$2,000 to \$1,800. The salary for a clerk was stricken off and pending further discussion, the clause for the support of public schools, the committee rose and asked five to sit again at three o'clock Friday, and the house adjourned.

TYLER.

Heavy Damages Against a Broad-City Election—Changed Mind.

Special to the Gazette.

Tyler, March 3.—The case of Kate McCarthy vs. the International & Great Northern Railway was decided in the district court to-day. Damages of \$7,650 were allowed against the company.

It is understood that Mr. Dodd and our council have refused to call an election for mayor in Gil. The custom has been heretofore to elect one year. It is considered questionable whether he has power to make such a move or not. He bases his authority on the revised statutes, claiming election for two years.

A cotton buyer named Garber adjured his affairs here yesterday to commit suicide. After curing the proper ingredients and drinking his farewell letter he disappeared. To-day he came to the city took the train for the south.

BOLD BURGLARY.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 3.—Early this morning burglars and the safe of J. C. Neaholt, jeweler and watchmaker, and stole \$30 to \$20,000 worth of goods. A portion of the property was diamonds and jewelry, together with hundred watches, of which hundred and fifty were left there repairs. Neaholt's personal loss about \$15,000. The burglars first entered T. T. Roth's hardware store, and secured a dozen revolvers and tools. Neaholt's safe, private watchman says the robbers bound him gagged him, and threw a blanket over him, while they were in progress and threw him into the coal house, succeeding in freeing himself after. He says there were three in. No clue to them.

The Oltory.

Boston, March 3.—Harvey N. Follen, assistant clerk of the superintendent of police department, treasurer of the police relief association embezzled some \$20,750 of funds of the latter organization, had been speculating in stocks and in a confession. He is held for trial \$4,000.

Via.

San Francisco, March 3.—A Victoria dispatch says the Eureka has arrived from north. Very little snow has fallen. Prospects are admirable for early large immigration in the spring and summer. Great expectations are held for the recent discovery in the Iowa district.

FIRES.

Fearfully Destructive Fire at Denison—Whole Block Burned.

An Elevator Burned at Albany, New York—Other Disasters.

Special to the Gazette.

Denison, March 3.—About three o'clock this morning the hardware and furniture store of Owen McCarthy, corner of Main street and Rock avenue was destroyed by fire. The flames had gained such headway before the fire was discovered that the whole building and all the stock was destroyed.

Mr. McCarthy was sleeping in his office in the building and his first knowledge of fire came with the dense smoke which nearly stifled him and it was with great effort he was able to find an egress from the building. The building was part brick and part sheet-iron, two-story high and fifty by one hundred and forty feet. The stock was valued at \$35,000. The insurance on it will nearly cover the loss. The building was insured for \$3,800. An 18 inch brick wall on the west side saved the remainder of the block from total destruction, but by means of the wooden shades over the doors the fire made its way to the front of the next building, which was occupied by a liquor dealer. The doors and all the woodwork on the front was soon destroyed, and the fire then destroyed everything inside. The corner of the building occupied by the First National Bank was ignited frequently, but by the persistent efforts of the fire boys it was saved. The roof of the Nelson House was fired but no considerable damage was done. Most of the merchants along the block moved all their stock and there by damaged it considerably. The fire boys worked well but for want of help only one well could be for want of help and apparatus for working both at hand, but of the hundreds of spectators, none offered to lend a helping hand to stay the force of the flames.

Albany, New York, March 3.—At two this morning the watchman at Dunlap's elevator discovered fire in the sixth story. By the time it was extinguished there the flames had broken out fiercely on the fourth floor. Larry Benson and another clerk of the fire department rushed down stairs through the flames and were badly burned. Fireman Atkins and John Myers and James Galligan were literally forced to come down the iron hoisting chain outside the building, one hundred feet from the ground. The chain was covered with ice and the men had to slide to the ground with great velocity, and were more or less injured. A strong north wind was blowing and the whole fire department called out. The fire spread rapidly through the mill and elevator shafts through the whole structure. About four o'clock the upper walls fell outward, a part falling through the bridge and Davis' provision store on Broadway, burying several persons under the ruins. Wm. Carlin and Michael McEwen, employees at the bridge and Davis were killed. James Cameron, book-keeper for the same firm, was injured internally and his legs crushed. The entire mill and elevator destroyed, belonged to the estate of Robert Dunlap. Loss on buildings, \$75,000; insurance, \$33,000. On the mill and elevator, \$33,000. About 150,000 bushels of grain were in the elevator. Loss of parties who had grain stored, \$40,000; insurance not ascertained.

St. Louis, March 3.—The extensive chemical works of W. H. Clapp & Co., Fourteenth and Gratiot streets, extending along the latter street nearly to Eleventh, took fire between two and three o'clock this morning and were damaged about \$50,000.

SAN ANTONIO.

The Mexican National Railway—General Lee's Lecture—A Needed Rain.

Special to the Gazette.

San Antonio, March 3.—Ed. McNeal, an engineer on the Mexican National railroad, just from Monterey, says the road will be completed to Saltillo, 230 miles from the Rio Grande border, by August. The company has ample means and will make connection with the line approaching from the City of Mexico as soon as possible.

General Fitzhugh Lee arrived this evening and was met at the depot by a committee of prominent citizens. He lectured at Casino hall to a fair audience. Many were prevented attending on account of the steady rain that set in about 6 o'clock.

The rain was much needed, and will save the lives of many sheep and cattle.

Adams & Wicks, of this city, offered Tom Green county a site for the court-house county building. The commissioner accepted the offer to-day, which permanently settles San Angelo as the county seat.

GALVESTON.

Sheriff Blakely Charged With Negligent Homicide—Local Politics.

Special to the Gazette.

Galveston, March 3.—The jury inquest into the accidental killing of Mr. C. Douglas Wednesday night concluded their labors to-day and returned a verdict accusing T. M. Blakely with negligent homicide.

Much interest has been felt in the adoption of the charter amendments which were brought before the legislature on the first instant. Tonight Capt. R. L. Fulton received a dispatch from Mayor L. C. Fisher at Austin that they had passed both houses under a suspension of the rules and as it is signed by the governor will become a law. Under the amend-

ments the mayor has power to appoint a city clerk and chief of police without the confirmation of the council.

Political matters are red-hot. Public meetings in the interest of respective candidates for mayor are being held to-night in Artillery Hall and in front of the Tremont Hotel. The election Monday will be a heated contest. General Diaz and party, by a telegram received here, were to arrive in Houston to-day.

DALLAS.

Trial of the Blum Station Train Robber—Greggs' Bond—Other Notes.

Special to the Gazette.

Dallas, March 3.—McKasson who was brought to this city last night and committed to jail on the charge of being implicated in the attempted train robbery at Blum station was arraigned before United States commissioner McCormick this afternoon for a preliminary hearing. A. J. Lawson, who resides in Cleburne, was the only witness examined. He stated in substance that just before the attempted robbery Killen and McKasson came to Pierce's plantation and went to picking cotton. He, Lawson, worked with them. Killen grew confidential and told him that he (Killen), McKasson, Bennett, Yarborough, and others were going rob the train at Blum and asked him to assist, which he refused to do, not because he was too good to engage in such work, but because he thought it would be a failure. On the night that Killen said they would rob the train there was an attempt made, but as he (Lawson) had predicted, it was a failure. Here the testimony stopped to be resumed Monday. An effort will be made by the United States authorities to get possession of the four prisoners who are in the hands of the state authorities at Hillsboro, and telegraphed about last night.

The bond of O. H. Gregg, who is in jail on the charge of robbing the mails while acting as route agent between here and El Paso, and recently captured near Nashville, Tennessee, was reduced to \$5,000 to-day. Gregg has hopes of being able to make bond on Monday next.

Charles Hanback, engineer of steam-number two, had his left leg broken last night while going to a fire.

The Beck & Corbitt Iron Company, of St. Louis, to-day filed an attachment suit in the federal court against the Dallas Car and Agricultural Implement Manufacturing Company. The amount of the debt is \$2,234.

FOREIGN.

A Letter From the Bishop About the Suffering Irish—Notes.

London, March 3.—A letter from the bishop of Rapkoll county, Donegal, is published, in which he says the only chance the destitute people have to maintain life is through charity. He says the policy of the government is to exterminate.

Election of the most Rev. Edward W. Benson as archbishop of Canterbury, in place of the most Rev. Dr. Trail deceased, was confirmed to-day in Bow church, London. The ceremony was formal and brief. The archbishop of York and bishops of London, Durham, Litchfield, Rochester and Exeter officiated.

Friends of Frank Byrne, for whose extradition the French government has been asked, have taken steps to secure numerous affidavits of members of parliament and others testifying that they saw Byrne in London May 24, the day of the Phoenix park murders.

Berlin, March 3.—The National Zeitung affirms that the Prince of Wales has expressed a strong disapproval with reference to the military degradation in France of the Orleans princes.

Windsor, March 3.—Gladstone was present at the council held by the queen to-day.

CORSICANA.

The One-Logged Rope Walker Breaks His Other Leg.

Special to the Gazette.

Corsicana, March 3.—A one-legged light rope walker traveling under the name of Prof. DeHuene during an exhibition this afternoon in which he carried a stove on his back, while walking on a line stretched across the main street, was thrown to the ground by the breaking of the iron bar to which the rope was attached, breaking his remaining leg and otherwise bruising him about the head and body. It is doubtful if the fracture can be set so as to knit well and most probably amputation will be resorted to.

The Central railroad will put four passenger trains on to-morrow, instead of two as heretofore.

During the past two weeks our county collections have averaged twenty-five hundred dollars per day. Our county is out of debt with a balance of \$35,000 in the treasury.

PARIS.

A Merchant Shot and Killed and Another Man Wounded.

Special to the Gazette.

Paris, March 3.—To-day Barney Gumpart shot and killed a merchant of this place named E. Samuels, and hit a drummer named Hoffman, from Sherman, who was only slightly hurt. A negro boot-black was also killed in the shooting. It occurred about 10:30 o'clock this morning and Samuels died at 11:30. The negro will also die. Only one shot was fired. The cause of the shooting was the seduction of Gumpart's sister by Samuels. Gumpart afterward surrendered and is in jail.

Mr. G. W. Sessions, of Ennis, Tex., says: "I used Brown's Iron Bitters for general debility, and am highly recommended." 2-28-d&w-1w

THE AGONY OVER.

Some Rapid Work Done on the Appropriation Bills.

The Conference Committees on the Tariff and Revenue Bill.

Make a Report to Both Houses of Their Agreement.

After a Long Discussion the Report is Adopted.

Senate.

Washington, March 3.—House bill to confirm certain entries on public lands passed. The unfinished business, the bill to exclude public lands in Alabama from the operation of the laws relating to mineral lands, passed.

Mr. Bayard offered the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the thanks of the senate of the United States are due, and are hereby tendered to Hon. David Davis, senator from Illinois, for the courteous, impartial and able manner in which he has presided over their deliberations, and fulfilled the duties of president pro tem of the senate.

Mr. Tober presented the credentials of his successor as senator from Colorado, Thomas M. Bowen.

Mr. Bowen presented the credentials of A. H. Colquitt, senator-elect from Georgia.

Mr. Plumb called up the bill directing the postmaster-general to re-adjust the salaries of certain postmasters. Passed.

At 12 o'clock Mr. Davis, president pro tem of the senate, in a few appropriate remarks, resigned the office and Mr. Edmunds of Vermont was elected president pro tem.

Mr. Anthony administered the oath and Mr. Edmunds took the chair.

Mr. McMillan from the committee on commerce made a report on the river and harbor bill.

Mr. McCall moved to strike out the provisions authorizing the eastern band of Cherokee Indians to bring suit in the court of claims to determine their rights to certain stocks and \$3,000 bonds held by the United States in trust for the Cherokee Indians. Lost.

The amendment authorizing the "old settler" Cherokees to present their claims to the court of claims was ruled out on the point of order. The other amendments of the committee were agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Plumb the amendments were agreed to authorizing and directing the attorney general to pay Chas. H. Reed for his services in defending Giteau, whatever sum he may fix upon as proper compensation, not to exceed \$3,000.

The amendment reported by the committee on appropriations having been agreed to, except on striking out certain deficiency appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia, which was agreed to.

The bill then passed.

Mr. Windom presented the credentials of his successor, Mr. Sabine, the elect senator from Minnesota.

After an executive session the senate resumed consideration of the bill to refund to the state of Georgia money paid out for the committee on defense in 1877. Passed.

On motion of Mr. Cameron of Wisconsin, the house bill to afford assistance and relief to congressman and the executive department for the investigation of claims and demands against the government, was taken up.

Mr. Jackson offered an amendment modifying the provisions in relation to the loyalty of the claimants so as to require that the claimants shall have been loyal at the time the stores or supplies were furnished by them, and shall not have thereafter given aid or comfort to the rebellion.

Mr. Cameron, of Wisconsin, and Messrs. Cockrell and Butler appealed to Mr. Jackson to withdraw the amendment on the ground that there would not be time for the house to act on any amendments that might now be made, but he declined. The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Garland said in his opinion the friends of this bill would be disappointed in their expectation, but he did not wish to delay the bill and therefore would withhold certain amendments which he had intended to offer.

The bill passed without amendment.

House.

After the transaction of some miscellaneous business, the house proceeded to vote upon the resolution in the Cook-Cutts contested election case, which declares the contestant elected to the seat, and the resolution was adopted. Yeas 155, nays 81, and Cook appeared at the bar of the house and took the oath of office.

Mr. Calkins then called up the South Carolina contested election case of Lee vs. Richardson.

Mr. Kelley, with the tariff conference reports in his hand, raised the question of consideration and the house refused to consider the election case. Kelley then submitted the conference report.

Messrs. Hubbard and Bayne demanded the reading of the report. Before it was read, however, Bayne raised the point of order against its reception. He raised his point on rule 29 which provides there shall accompany every conference a detailed statement of the report. He understood there was no such explicit statement accompanying this report.

Mr. Kelly maintained that the index of the changes was sufficient. The chair sustained point of order on the ground that an index was not such a statement as was required by the rules, whereupon Mr. Kelly again set up the index but attached it to a statement to the effect that the bill provided for an aggregate reduction of \$67,000,000.

for the information of the house, correcting some typographical errors in the printed bill. The clerk then began to read the report of the conference committee which included the reading of the whole bill.

Mr. Kelley proposed to limit the debate to two hours. Several Democrats laughingly suggested to make it short.

Mr. Kelly then suggested an hour and a half but finally it was arranged that the vote should be taken at five o'clock. He offered to let the opponents of the report be heard first, but Mr. Carlisle thought the usual and proper course was to have the effect of report stated to the house.

Mr. Kelley admitted the force of the suggestion and proceeded to open debate. The first section of the bill he said was the bill which the house passed last session, for the reduction of internal taxes, with amendments made thereto by the senate, touching tobacco, cigars and snuff. The reduction would diminish the internal revenue taxes from thirty-five to forty millions. He was unable to make an estimate of the immediate effect of the changes proposed in the tariff law. The result, however, was that the total reduction of revenue under this bill, he could not defend, but on the whole he considered it an improvement.

On tobacco Mr. Kelly said the estimate was eleven million.

Mr. Hammond inquired sarcastically whether the conference committee had wasted any time in considering the instructions given to it by the house in regard to the unconstitutionality of the senate's action.

Mr. Kelly replied in the same vein, that the conference committee had not disregarded any instructions of the house.

Mr. Kelly—The conference acted on their own conclusions.

Hammond—Do you mean to say the conclusions voted by the house on the 27th of February were wrong?

Mr. Kelly—No, no. The matter is not now before the house, and it is not fair to consume time to be allotted this side of the house in the discussion of that. It is not pertinent to the pending question.

Mr. Carlisle proceeded to argue against the report.

He believed public safety and public interest demanded a reduction of the tax and he regretted exceedingly that the conference committee had not brought before the house such a measure as he could support. He had announced more than once his readiness to vote for an average reduction of twenty per cent, on tariff duties, justly and equally distributed. The proposition now submitted did not, he believed make a reduction of more than one half of that average. From forty to forty-five millions of the whole reduction would come from the internal taxes, leaving only twenty to twenty-five millions to come from the tariff duties, of which eleven millions would come from the single article of sugar. There were several articles on which the conference committee recommended duties, higher than the house and senate had voted.

The common earthenware was one of these articles. It now paid forty per cent. ad valorem, and the conference committee recommended sixty per cent., an increase of twenty per cent., or, allowing for the charge in regard to packages, a clear net increase of thirty-three per cent.

He regretted the gentleman (Mr. Kelly) had not seen proper to state to the house some reason why this enormous increase should be made. Another important change was in iron ore. The house, after a full and elaborate discussion had fixed the duty on iron ore at thirty cents per ton. The senate had fixed it at the same rate. The present rate was twenty cents ad valorem, equivalent to about fifty-seven cents per ton. The conference committee fixed the rate at sixty-five cents per ton. As to steel rails the senate and house had expressed their respective judgments, the house fixing the rate at fifteen and the senate at 15 68-100.

After long debate the house finally adopted the report by yeas 152, nays 115.

Washington, March 3.—The report of the conference committee on the tariff was argued in the senate until a late hour last night, Mr. Beck of Kentucky particularly taking strong grounds against any lowering of rates on a great outrage on the people of the country as well in several respects upon congress itself. It was finally adopted however by a vote of thirty-two yeas to thirty-one nays.

The Pittsburgh crucible and open hearth steel manufacturers were interviewed this morning in regard to the tariff bill as passed by the senate, which they say is a severe blow to their interests as well as that of the cotton wire and wire rod manufacturers. The latter claim that if the bill becomes a law they will be forced to quit business.

The rate of the river and harbor bill was settled by action of the senate to-day, in adopting Mr. Ingalls motion that the report of the committee accompanying the bill be printed and lie on the table. This action carries over till to-morrow the consideration of report and as Sunday is not a legislative day, no action can be taken by the senate on the bill at this session. It is generally understood the purpose of the motion was to kill the bill.

Secretary Chandler to-day received a cable message from Minister Hunt at St. Petersburg stating that Eugénie Hart and party, including Bartlett and the other survivors of the Jeanette, arrived at St. Petersburg this morning all in good health.

Edward O. Graves has declined the position of chief examiner under the civil service commission to which he was nominated yesterday.

SUICIDE.

Worcester, Mass., March 3.—Charles W. Smith, a prominent cotton manufacturer, suicided to-day. Cause, probably temporary insanity. He was wealthy and owned the mills at Barre, Auburn and Repert.

In use of the best right certificate of New York in May as President

ready looking to this city. In ten months, or by next fall, President

Fears are entertained for the safety of the crew who are in the rigging. Life-system generally disorganized.

They don't deny, however, that the secretary is much prostrated and his system generally disorganized.

new suit of clothes, and \$25,000 were paid out.

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